Indian Peace Keeping Force for Kampuchea

1235. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to send a peace keeping force under UN command to Kampucha;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any agreement has been entered into with that country in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) and (b). At the request of the UN Secretary-General, Government of India has decided to contribute personnel to the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC). Three military liaison officers have so far been selected for the UNAMIC. The UNAMIC will be supervised by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) which will assist the Supreme National Council of Cambodia to administer the country and hold free and fair elections.

(c) No, Sir. Our participation in the UN Peace keeping Operations is by arrangement with the United Nations.

[*English*]

Foodgrains Production

1236. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the kharif production was less than the target set during the current year;

(b) the reasons for the shortfall; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to grow more foodgrains during Rabi season in each State to meet the demand of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The final estimates of kharif foodgrain crops for 1991-92 have not yet become due from the States. However, as per the current assessment, the kharif foodgrain production this year is likely to fall short of the targetted level of 103 million tonnes.

(b) The reason for decline in kharif foodgrain production during 1990-91 is on account of long dry spells and aberrant weather conditions prevailing particularly in the north-western parts of the country including the States of Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan etc.

(c) To make up the shortfall in the production of kharif foodgrains, strategy for the rabi season of 1991-92 has been drawn in consultation with the State Governments during the National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Compaign. These include contingency cropping, larger area coverage under rabi/summer rice, wheat, rabi/summer maize, pulses etc., bringing additional area under irrigation from major and medium schemes. These steps are in addition to the implementation of the ongoing developmental programmes like Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP).

Foreign Firms in Refining of Crude Oil

1237. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to allow foreign firms in refining of crude oil,

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the reaction of the foreign firms